

Thursday, 21st May, 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: Planned expanded opening from 1st June

As you will no doubt be aware, the government has asked schools to provide for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 after half term. We have spent considerable time using the government guidance to plan for this return to be as safe as possible. I would like to share these arrangements with you so you understand how school will look for your child.

If your child is showing any of the published symptoms of CoVID-19 then they **must not** attend the academy under any circumstances.

Year Group Opening Dates:

Reception children only: Monday 1st June

Reception and Year 1 children only: Tuesday 2nd June

Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children only: Wednesday 3rd June onwards.

There will **no provision** for children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 at this time **except** for those of key worker parents and those considered vulnerable. Children in these year groups must stay at home.

Arrival times at the academy:

Children with surname A to H will arrive at 8:45am. Reception children will arrive via the Gordon Road gate. Children in Year 1 and Year 6 will arrive at the Suffolk Road playground gate.

Children with surname I to Z will arrive at 9:00am. Reception children will arrive via the Gordon Road gate. Children in Year 1 and Year 6 will arrive at the Suffolk Road playground gate.

There will be social distance markers in place and a one-way system marked for you to follow. Children will be received by their allocated teacher in a 'conveyor-belt' style system. In all cases, **just one adult per child** to bring children to school.

If you have children in different Year Groups, please drop your youngest child first. There will be no BLUE gate in operation- only the Gordon Road and Suffolk Road playground gates.

Children are expected to wear their academy uniform.

Departure times from the academy:

Children with surname A to H will be dismissed from the academy at 2:45pm. Reception parents will enter via the Gordon Road gate observing the social distance markers. Year 1 and Year 6 parents will enter the Suffolk Road main playground gate. Departure will be reverse of morning arrival.

Children with surname I to Z will be dismissed from the academy at 3:00pm. Reception parents will enter via the Gordon Road gate observing the social distance markers. Year 1 and Year 6 parents will enter the Suffolk Road main playground gate. Departure will be reverse of morning arrival.

As with morning arrival, social distancing must be observed and **only one adult per child** to collect.

There will be **no provision** for either breakfast club or afterschool clubs.

During the day:

Children will be restricted to groups limited to a maximum of 15 children. They will not be able to meet with friends in a different group. We **are not able to put friends together** in groups but have made sure children are with their classmates as much as possible. Children will have a teacher and teaching assistant familiar to them in their group. These will remain consistent to the group. Children will not be able to change group unless updated guidance is received from government. Assemblies will not be held.

Classrooms will have tables arranged so that children are able to sit 2m apart from each other in class.

The academy will be prioritising pupil well-being, physical education, reading and mathematics within the curriculum. Your child will not have a full programme of learning but will be able to build upon the good work that families have been doing at home during the period of lockdown.

As we aim to complete as much of our learning as possible outside, we ask that your child has sun cream applied before school, brings a hat and sunglasses, and a named water bottle with them.

Our playground and field will be 'zoned' to restrict groups from mixing.

Children will wash their hands between learning episodes, and before and after break and lunch. Hand sanitizers and cleaning sprays will be used in all classrooms and corridors throughout the day. We have arranged for additional cleaning to take place both during the day and after school.

Each child will have their own stationery pack which is for their use only. Children in Y1 and Y6 will have a laptop that only they are able to use during this period.

Lunch provision

Children in Reception and Year 1 can either bring in their own packed lunch or receive a Universal Free packed lunch from the academy.

Children in Year 6 should bring in their own packed lunch. Those children in Year 6 who have been receiving an EdenRed voucher during lockdown will receive a Free School Meal packed lunch.

If your child attends the academy **and** you have received an EdenRed voucher for them during lockdown then this voucher **will cease to be provided for those pupils attending school from 1st June.**

When the weather is suitable, lunch will be eaten in groups on the field or playground. During wet weather, lunches will be eaten in group classrooms. The dining hall will not be used for lunch so that children are able to be kept apart.

What if my child has an underlying health condition?

Government guidance states that:

- **Clinically extremely vulnerable** children should continue to be shielded and not be in school.

What if a member of my child's family has an underlying health condition?

Government guidance states that:

- **If a child, young person lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable** (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, they **can** attend their education or childcare school.
- **If a child, young person lives in a household with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable**, it is advised they only attend school if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, they are able to understand and follow those instructions.

What if my child becomes ill?

If your child becomes ill at home, then they must not come to the academy. Please ring us to advise that your child will be absent. If your child becomes ill at school, then they will be safely isolated and you will be asked to collect them as soon as is possible. Isolated children will be accompanied by a staff member until they are collected.

Will my child have to wear a face mask?

Government guidance is clear that face masks are not appropriate for school. As such, we are not supporting the wearing of face masks at the academy.

How safe will my child be at school?

There is no way to offer parents a 100% guarantee that anything is safe. By following the government advice around social distancing, working in small groups, staggering the start, break and lunchtimes, and by introducing additional cleaning measures, we will do all we can. Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us.

Ultimately, the decision is yours as a parent. The government guidance acknowledges that "primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff," and that children should "only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group stays away from other people and groups." We will do all we can to maintain social distancing within school, but we also acknowledge that for children, unlike adults, this is a difficult thing for them to do.

What about if I have a child in Year 2, 3, 4 or 5?

At the moment there is **no provision** for these children to return to school. They have to stay at home. The only exception is for those children of key workers and those considered vulnerable..

What do I need to do now?

You need to let us know whether your child will be intending to come back to the academy from 1st June – even if you have made contact about this previously.

To help us plan as best as possible, I ask you to complete the online form here <https://tinyurl.com/y7qddjgo>

Alternatively, please complete and return the form appended to the academy by post by Thursday 28th May. You do not need to complete both forms – just either the online form or the paper one attached to this letter.

I understand that this is a very worrying time for you and possibly your children. As a parent myself, I share these feelings. However, please be reassured that we have followed all government guidance and have completed detailed risk assessments that have been agreed with Ormiston Academies Trust. We will continue to provide information via our website and social media channels as updates become available.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Thompson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr. M. Thompson
Principal

Your child's first name

Your child's last name

Your mobile phone number

Which Year Group is your child in?

Reception Year 1 Year 6

Does your child have an underlying medical condition?

Yes No

Is your child considered clinically vulnerable?

Yes No

Is your child considered clinically EXTREMELY vulnerable?

Yes No

Has a member of your household displayed symptoms associated with CoViD-19 since January 2020?

Yes No

Has a member of your household tested positive for CoViD-19 since January 2020?

Yes No

Has your child displayed symptoms associated with CoViD-19 since January 2020?

Yes No

Has your child tested positive for CoViD-19 since January 2020?

Yes No

Will you be sending your child back to school from 1st June?

Yes No

I confirm that I have read the letter to parents dated 20th May 2020

Yes No

Data protection: I consent to the academy using my data

Yes No

Addition information that may help us plan for the safe return of your child to the academy: